Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior version and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-20. (Cancelled).

21. (Currently amended): A saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle comprising:

(a) a core gold nanoparticle, comprising gold atoms, without Fe atoms and having no magnetic property; [[and]]

(b) a plurality of saccharide molecules; and

(c) a linker, linking ~~attached~~ the plurality of saccharide molecules to the core gold nanoparticle;[[,]]

wherein the saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle has an average diameter of about 2-9 nm.~~each of the saccharide molecules has a specific binding affinity to a target protein.~~

22. (Currently amended): The saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle of claim 21, wherein the ~~target protein is expressed by an infectious agent~~ plurality of saccharide molecules are selected from[[a]] the group consisting of ~~bacteria, viruses, mycoplasma and fungi~~ a monosaccharide and a Pk antigen.

23. (Currently amended): The saccharide conjugated nanoparticle of claim [[22]]21, wherein the ~~infectious agent is present in a host organism~~plurality of saccharide molecules comprises at least 150 molecules.

24. (Currently amended): The saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle of claim 21, wherein the ~~target protein is a mannose-specific binding protein~~linker is 5-thio-pentan-1-ol.

25. (Currently amended): ~~The saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle of claim 24, wherein the mannose-specific binding protein is FimH protein~~ A composition comprising:

(a) a saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle, which comprises:

(i) a core gold nanoparticle, comprising gold atoms, without Fe atoms and having no magnetic property;

(ii) a plurality of saccharide molecules; and

(iii) a linker, attaching the plurality of saccharide molecules to the core gold nanoparticle; and

(b) a pathogen, bound to the saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle.

26. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle of claim 21~~ composition of claim 25, wherein the ~~target protein~~ pathogen is ~~Shiga-like toxin~~ selected from the group consisting of bacteria, viruses, mycoplasma and fungi.

27. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle of claim 21~~ composition according to claim 25, ~~wherein the target protein is lectin~~further comprising a non-human subject infected with the pathogen.

28. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide conjugated nanoparticle of claim 27~~composition of claim 25, wherein the[[lectin]] plurality of saccharide molecules are ~~is Concannvalin A~~ selected from the group consisting of a monosaccharide, and a Pk antigen.

29. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide conjugated nanoparticle of claim 21~~composition of claim 25, wherein the ~~saccharide~~ linker is ~~a monosaccharide~~5-thio-pentan-1-ol.

30. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide conjugated nanoparticle of claim 29~~composition of claim 25, wherein the ~~monosaccharide is mannose~~ plurality of saccharide molecules comprise at least 150 molecules.

31. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide conjugated nanoparticle of claim 21~~composition of claim 28, wherein the monosaccharide is selected from the group consisting of mannose, galactose, and glucose ~~is an oligosaccharide~~.

32. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide conjugated nanoparticle~~composition of claim[[31]]28, wherein the ~~oligosaccharide is~~ plurality of saccharide molecules are Pk antigen.

33. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide conjugated nanoparticle~~ composition of claim[[21]] 29, wherein the plurality of saccharide ~~is a polysaccharide~~molecules comprise at least 150 molecules.

34. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle~~ composition of claim [[21]]29, wherein the plurality of saccharide [[is]]molecules are selected from ~~mannose, galactose and glucose~~ a monosaccharide and a Pk antigen.

35. (Currently amended): A saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle comprising:

(a) a core gold nanoparticle, comprising gold atoms, without Fe atoms and having no magnetic property; [[and]]

(b) a plurality of saccharide molecules; and ~~attached to the core gold nanoparticle~~

(c) a linker, attaching the plurality of saccharide molecules to the core gold nanoparticle;

wherein ~~each of~~ the plurality of saccharide molecules ~~has a specific binding affinity to a target protein of an infectious agent~~ are selected from the group consisting of a monosaccharide and a Pk antigen.

36. (Currently amended): The saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle of claim 35, wherein the ~~target protein is Shiga-like toxin~~ plurality of saccharide molecules comprises at least 150 molecules.

37. (Currently amended): The saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle of claim 35, wherein the ~~target protein is a mannose-specific binding protein~~ monosaccaride is selected from the group consisting of mannose, galactose and glucose.

38. (Currently amended): ~~The saccharide conjugated nanoparticle of claim 35,~~ A composition comprising:

(a) a saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle according to claim 35; and

(b) a pathogen, bound to the nanoparticle~~wherein the infectious agent is present in a host organism~~.

39. (Currently amended): A ~~saccharide conjugated nanoparticle~~ composition comprising:

(a) a ~~core gold~~ saccharide-conjugated nanoparticle according to claim 38~~, comprising gold atoms, without Fe atoms and having no magnetic property~~; and

(b) a ~~plurality of saccharide molecules attached to the core gold nanoparticle, wherein each of the saccharide molecules has a specific binding affinity to lectin~~ subject infected with the pathogen.

40. (Currently amended): The ~~saccharide conjugated nanoparticle~~ composition of claim 38, wherein the ~~lectin is Concannvalin A~~ monosaccharide is selected from the group consisting of mannose, galactose, and glucose.